

Remarks

Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment After Final Action be admitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116.

Applicant submits that this Amendment presents claims in better form for consideration on appeal. Furthermore, applicant believes that consideration of this Amendment could lead to favorable action that would remove one or more issues for appeal.

Claims 1, 2, 10, 13-17, 20, 24 and 25 have been amended. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-17, 19, 20, 24 and 25 are now presented for examination.

Claims 1-6, 10-18, 20 and 24-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,806) in view of W3C 4.01 Specification: W3C Recommendation, 24 December 1999, esp. ch. 11. Applicants submit that the present claims are patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

DeRose discloses a data processing system and method for generating a representation of an electronic document and displaying the electronic document, formatted according to a style sheet, on an output device. See DeRose at col. 3, ll. 14-21. An element, or node, of the tree is defined by the markup in the electronic document. An element may contain text. The text content may be considered to be a child element of its containing element. Each element in an electronic document is assigned a type name according to its markup. The type name may also include the type names of a parent element and of previous parent elements, thus indicating the context in which an element occurs in the document. Such a type name is called a qualified name. The type name identifying the complete context of an element is the fully-qualified name. A document is also provided with one or more style sheets for specifying format characteristics for its display. A style sheet includes format characteristics for type names of elements in the document (col. 3, ll. 22-50).

HTML 4.01 discloses tables that have an associated caption that provides a description of a table's purpose. Table rows may be grouped into a head, foot and body section. See HTML 4.01 at 11.1. Applicants submit that neither DeRose nor HTML 4.01 disclose or suggest associating an identifier with a format region wherein each format region defines an area on a document page. Moreover neither reference discloses or suggests specifying parameters for each format region, where the parameters include formatting instructions relating to the presentation of the data records in a document.

Claim 1 of the present application recites:

A method for producing documents comprising:
associating an identifier with each data record in a data stream according to the type of data in the data record;
associating each identifier with a format region, each format region defining an area on a document page;
specifying parameters for each format region, where the parameters include formatting instructions relating to the presentation of the data records in a document;
formatting each data record within the corresponding format region according to the parameters specified.

To establish a **prima facie** case of **obviousness**, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. *In re Vaeck*, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991).

Applicants submit that the combination of DeRose and HTML 4.01 do not teach or suggest all of the applicants' claim limitations. As discussed above, nowhere in either

DeRose or HTML 4.01 is there disclosed associating an identifier with a format region wherein each format region defines an area on a document page. Further, in the Final Office Action, the Examiner failed to find such disclosures or suggestions in the cited references.

Further, neither cited reference discloses specifying parameters for a format region. DeRose discloses style sheets that specify format characteristics corresponding to type names. The style sheet includes format characteristics for type names of elements in a document. However, specifying format characteristics corresponding to type names is not equivalent to specifying parameters for each format region on a document page.

Since neither DeRose nor HTML 4.01 disclose or suggest associating an identifier with a format region wherein each format region defines an area on a document page, or specifying parameters for a format region, any combination of DeRose and HTML 4.01 also would not disclose or suggest such features. Therefore, claim 1 is patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1 and include additional limitations. Therefore, claims 2-9 are also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

Claim 10 recites:

A method of formatting documents comprising:
receiving a data stream in which each data record therein is associated with an identifier according to the type of data in the data record;
associating each identifier with one of the one or more format regions, each format region defining an area on a document page;
receiving a set of parameters, where one or more parameters of the set of parameters correspond to each format region, where the set of parameters include information relating to the presentation of the data records in a document;
formatting each data record within a corresponding format region and creating the document by applying the one or more parameters corresponding to each identifier to each data record associated with the identifier.

For the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 10 is also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01. Because claims 11-16 depend from claim 10 and include additional limitations, claims 11-16 is also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

Claim 17 recites:

specifying parameters corresponding to each of one or more format regions, the parameters specify formatting instructions for one or more data records, and a plurality of parameters define a set of parameters;
associating each identifier with one of the one or more regions defining an area on a document page, wherein each data record is formatted within the one or more format regions;

receiving the data stream, where each data record of the one or more data records therein is associated with each identifier according to the type of data in each data record of the one or more data records; and

creating a document by applying the one or more parameters corresponding to each identifier to each data record of the one or more data records associated with the identifier.

For the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 17 is also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01. Because claims 19 and 20 depend from claim 17 and include additional limitations, claim 17 is also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

Claim 24 recites:

A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions, which when executed by one or more processors, causes the one or more processors to perform the following:

receiving a data stream in which each data record therein is associated with an identifier according to the type of data in the data record;

associating each identifier with one of the one or more format regions, each format region defining an area on a document page;

receiving a set of parameters, where one or more parameters of the set of parameters correspond to each format region, where the set of parameters include

information relating to the presentation of the data records in a document;

formatting each data record within a corresponding format region and creating the document by applying the one or more parameters corresponding to each identifier to each data record associated with the identifier.

For the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 24 is also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

Claim 25 recites:

A computer system comprising:
a processor to:

receive a data stream of one or more data records, where each data record therein is associated with an identifier according to the type of data in the data record,

associate each identifier with one of the one or more format regions defining an area on a document page;

receive a set of parameters, where one or more parameters of a set of parameters correspond to each format region, and

format each data record within a corresponding format region and create a document by applying the one or more parameters corresponding to each identifier to each data record associated with the identifier, where the parameters include information relating to the presentation of the data records in a document; and

a data storage device memory to store data and instructions to be used by the processor.

For the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 25 is also patentable over DeRose in view of HTML 4.01.

Claims 7-9 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over DeRose et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,708,806) in view of W3C 4.01 Specification, and further in view of Hakon Wium Lie, W3C Core Styles, 1997. Applicants submit that the present claims are patentable over any combination of DeRose, HTML 4.01 and Core.

Core discloses style sheets. However, there is no disclosure of associating an identifier with a format region wherein each format region defines an area on a document

page. In addition, there is no disclosure or suggestion of specifying parameters for a format region. As discussed above, DeRose and HTML 4.01 do not disclose or suggest associating an identifier with a format region wherein each format region defines an area on a document page, or specifying parameters for a format region. Thus, any combination of DeRose, HTML 4.01 and Core also would not disclose or suggest such features. Accordingly, the present claims are patentable over the combination of DeRose, HTML 4.01 and Core.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome, and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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